

Section 1

History and Culture

READ TO DISCOVER

1. Which European countries played a role in Canada's early history?
2. What are some important features of Canadian culture?

WHY IT MATTERS

Canada and the United States share the longest unguarded border in the world. Use cnnfyi.com or other **current events** sources to learn about the relationship between the two countries.

DEFINE

provinces

hinterland

LOCATE

St. Lawrence River

Montreal

Quebec City

Toronto

Ottawa

Ottawa River

Whitehorse

Yellowknife

Windsor

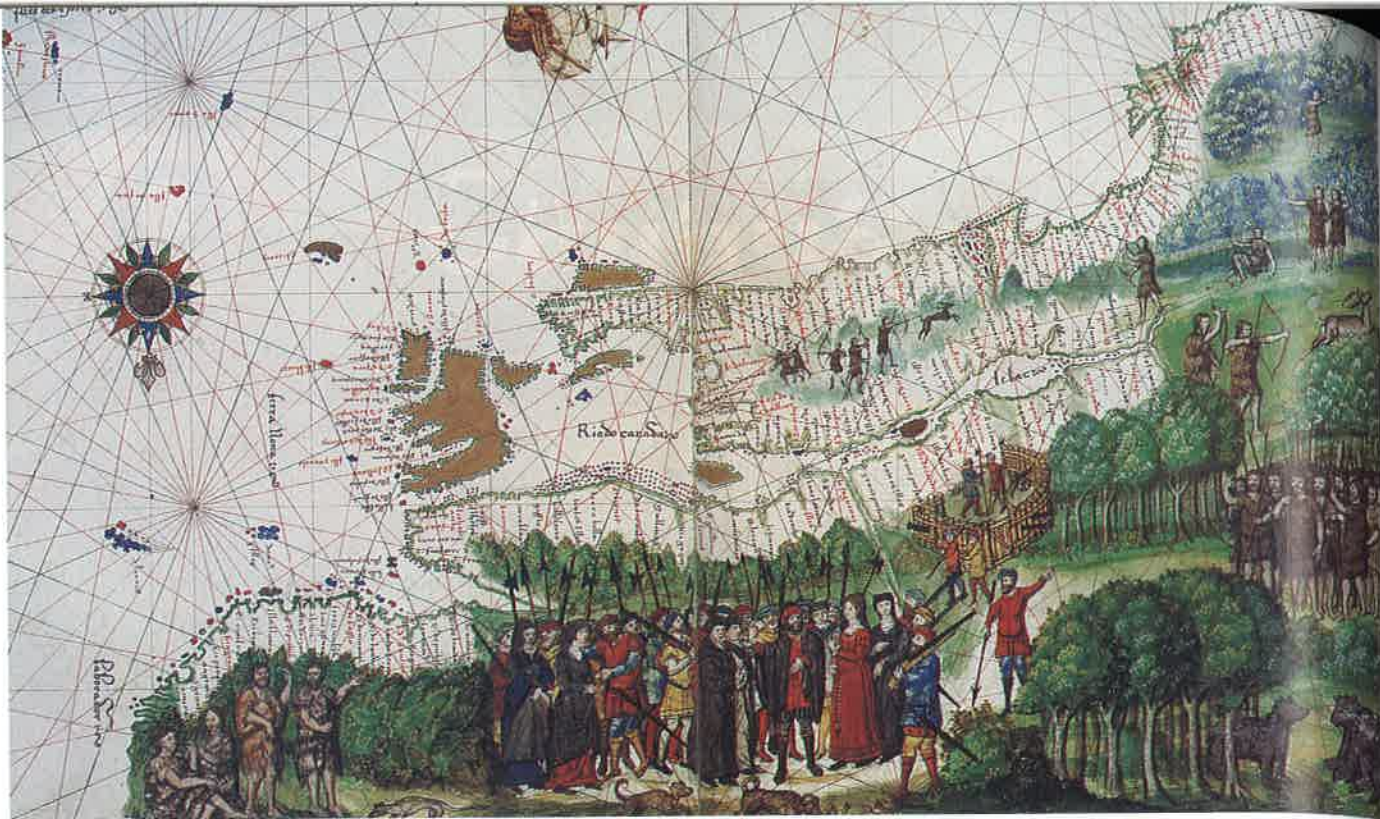
Saguenay River

Vancouver



Canada: Physical-Political





INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

*This historical map shows the French explorer Jacques Cartier arriving in Canada in the early 1540s with a group of French colonists. Cartier's attempts to establish a permanent colony near what is now Quebec City failed, and he was forced to return to France. **What European and Canadian Indian cultural features can you see in this illustration? What features of the region's natural environment are visible?***



In the 1960s archaeologists discovered the first clear evidence of Viking settlement in North America. At L'Anse aux Meadows on the northern tip of the island of Newfoundland, they found the remains of eight buildings used as Viking workshops and numerous artifacts, including nails, a brass ring, and a bronze cloak pin.

History

As in the United States, Native American societies were once found across Canada. The first Europeans to sail to Canada's eastern shores were Viking adventurers. They visited between A.D. 1000 and as late as the mid-1300s. However, the Vikings left no permanent settlements. More extensive exploration by Europeans began in 1497. In that year John Cabot explored the coasts of Newfoundland and other islands for the English.

The first great European explorer of Canada's interior was Jacques Cartier (zhahk kahr-TYAY) of France. In the 1530s he traveled up the St. Lawrence River as far as present-day Montreal. This was nearly a century before the English established colonies in New England. The French had three main goals in Canada. First, they wanted to find a northwest water passage across North America to Asia. Second, they wanted to exploit nearby fishing waters and to develop a trade for animal furs from North America. Third, they wanted to convert Canadian Indians to Roman Catholicism.

By 1608 the French established a permanent settlement at what became Quebec City on the St. Lawrence River. Soon, French settlers were farming along the St. Lawrence and in nearby Nova Scotia to the east.

In 1713 Great Britain took over Nova Scotia. Eventually, the British forced many French settlers there to leave. After a long war, Britain had won control of all of French Canada by 1763. The British organized Canada into several governmental districts called **provinces**. Today Canada has 10 provinces and three special territories.

British settlement in Canada increased during the American Revolution. Many colonists left the United States so they could stay under British rule. Canada's population continued to grow in the first half of the 1800s. Immigration from abroad increased. In 1867 the British government created the self-governing Dominion of Canada. The dominion included the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. Manitoba,

British Columbia, and Prince Edward Island joined them in the 1870s. Alberta and Saskatchewan did not become provinces until 1905. Newfoundland became part of Canada in 1949.

READING CHECK: **Human Systems** What European countries most influenced Canada's development?

Culture

More than 31 million people live in Canada. French and British culture have remained strong there, along with many influences from the United States. In addition, immigration has brought other Europeans and people from the Caribbean, Asia, and Africa. Canada's government encourages each group to hold on to its culture. As a result, Canada is a multicultural country.

People, Languages, and Religion About one fourth of all Canadians live in the province of Quebec. Quebec City is the provincial capital, and Montreal is Quebec's largest city. The province is the center of French-Canadian culture. In fact, more than 90 percent of Canadians who speak French as their first language live there. Most people in Quebec are Roman Catholic, which is the largest religion in Canada. (See the graph of religions in Canada.)

French Canadians in Quebec call themselves Quebecois (kay-buh-KWAH). They have worked to maintain cultural independence from the rest of Canada. This effort has influenced public policies and laws there. For example, official papers of the provincial government are written only in French. Also, signs on businesses and along Quebec's roads are in French as well. However, a minority in Quebec do not share the province's dominant French culture.

To the west, Ontario reflects British heritage much like Quebec symbolizes the French. British customs are still widespread in Toronto, Ontario's capital. French is seldom heard or seen on signs in the city. On the other hand, Ottawa (AH-tuh-wuh), which is in Ontario and is Canada's capital, is bilingual. English and French are commonly spoken in the city, which lies just across the Ottawa River from Quebec.

Many immigrants from the British Isles and southern and Eastern Europe settled provinces in the east and west. The residents of northern Canada include people who have left Canada's cities in the south. Many Inuit (once called Eskimos) and Canadian Indians also live there. Settlements such as Whitehorse and Yellowknife are classic frontier towns.

READING CHECK: **Places and Regions** In what way is Quebec culturally different from the rest of Canada?

Settlement and Land Use The St. Lawrence lowlands of southern Quebec and Ontario make up the most densely settled part of Canada. They are also Canada's most economically developed areas. There you will find a chain of cities that extends from Quebec City to Windsor, Ontario. This chain includes the cities of Montreal, Toronto, and Ottawa. Together all of these cities lead the country in wealth, industry, commerce, politics, and influence. This area forms the heartland of Canada. For this reason, we call Ontario and Quebec the Heartland Provinces.

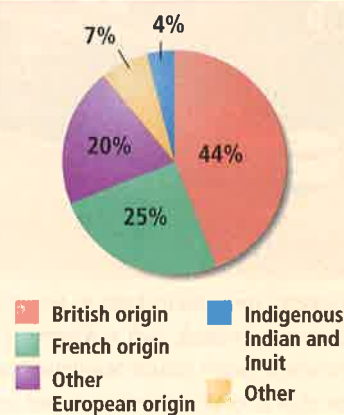
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Canada's Ethnic Makeup

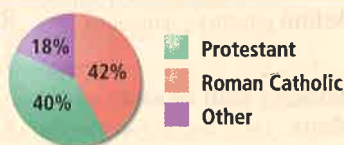


Source: The DK World Desk Reference

INTERPRETING THE GRAPH

Canada is a multiethnic country, although British and French cultures are dominant. How does Canada's ethnic makeup reflect its history?

Religions in Canada



Source: Central Intelligence Agency, The World Factbook 2001

INTERPRETING THE GRAPH

Canada's two main religions are Roman Catholicism and Protestantism. In which part of Canada do you think Catholicism is dominant?



Canada's core area includes its largest cities in the St. Lawrence lowlands, such as Montreal (top). The Prairie Provinces, which include Manitoba (bottom), are known for their productive market-oriented agriculture.

Most people in the Heartland Provinces live in the south and east. In Quebec, for example, the only densely settled areas are in the St. Lawrence, Saguenay (sa-guh-NAY), and Ottawa River valleys. The forests and rocky uplands of the vast interior are nearly empty. Only isolated government centers, trading stations, and mining districts there have many people.

The Atlantic Provinces of the east are thinly populated. These coastal provinces are Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. They form Canada's eastern **hinterland**. A hinterland is a region that lies far away from major population centers. Less than one twelfth of all Canadians live in the Atlantic Provinces.

In the west, settlement of most of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta followed completion of the country's transcontinental railroad in 1885. Thousands of immigrant farmers rode the rails to their new homes in what are called the Prairie Provinces. The southern parts of these provinces were covered with prairie grasslands when European settlers arrived.

Today large farms stretch across the Prairie Provinces. However, few people are needed to work them because the level land encourages the large-scale use of farm machinery. As a result, Canada's fertile prairies remain only thinly settled. Still fewer people live farther north. The grasslands there give way to forests. Farther west is the Pacific Coast province of British Columbia. Vancouver, a major seaport, is the largest city there and the third-largest in Canada.

Forests, tundra, and rocky plains cover Canada's vast frigid north. Most of the land is underlaid by permafrost. Isolated towns and villages are scattered throughout this huge region of wilderness. It has only a few, usually gravel, highways.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Human Systems** What area of Canada is most densely settled?



Review

Define provinces, hinterland

Working with Sketch Maps

On a map of Canada that you draw or that your teacher provides, label the St. Lawrence River, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, Ottawa, Ottawa River, Whitehorse, Yellowknife, Windsor, Saguenay River, and Vancouver. What river did early French settlers follow into Canada? How did this route influence the distribution of ethnic groups in Canada today?

Reading for the Main Idea

- Human Systems** How is Quebec's French culture reflected in the province's public policies? Give two examples.
- Human Systems** How is the fertile land of the Prairie Provinces used? How have technology and physical geography combined to affect the population there?

Critical Thinking

- Comparing** What characteristics do the provinces of Quebec and Ontario have in common? In what ways are they different?
- Making Generalizations and Predictions** Compare the geographies of northern Canada and southern Canada. In which region do you think people would generally need to be more self-sufficient? Explain your answer.



Organizing What You Know

- Copy the chart below. Use it to list the provinces in each of Canada's regions. You can use the chapter map to help you complete the chart. Do you think these are perceptual, formal, or functional regions? Why?

Atlantic Provinces		
Heartland Provinces		
Prairie Provinces		
Pacific Coast		
Canadian North		

Section 2

Canada Today

READ TO DISCOVER

1. What resources and activities drive Canada's economy?
2. What factors and processes have influenced the growth of Canada's cities?
3. How is Canada organized and governed?

WHY IT MATTERS

The United States imports more goods from Canada than from any other country. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to learn more about U.S.-Canadian trade.

DEFINE

parliament
consensus

LOCATE

Laurentian Mountains	Edmonton
Sudbury	Winnipeg
Thunder Bay	Iqaluit
Vancouver Island	Baffin Island
Calgary	

Economic Development

Canada today is a developed country with a market economy and high standard of living. Its most important trade partner is the United States. Both countries have good transportation systems and similar business practices. As a result, Canadian and American firms can easily do business together.

Over the last century Canada has shifted away from an agricultural economy. Today its economy is based mainly on manufacturing and service industries. Mining has also long been a major activity. In fact, no other country exports more minerals and metals than Canada. Agriculture remains important. Canada is a major exporter of farm goods, producing more than its small population needs. Where do you think those farm goods are produced? Where would you expect to find large manufacturing centers? Next we will look at how the economic geography varies across the country's regions.



INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

While Canada has a strong, modern economy based on manufacturing and services, economic development is still a challenge in some areas. For example, many small towns in eastern Canada, such as Prospect, Nova Scotia, have historically depended on primary activities such as fishing. These areas lag behind Canada's most economically developed areas. How would you describe the physical geography of this region?



Canada's Bay of Fundy has the highest tides in the world. They can be as high as 70 feet (21 m). These tides bring water from the North Atlantic Ocean into the narrow bay. The bore, or leading wave of the incoming water, can roar like a big truck as the tides rush in.

The Atlantic Provinces Life in this part of Canada is challenging. It has been the country's poorest region, with the lowest wages and the highest unemployment rate. In addition, long cold winters and thin rocky soils make farming difficult. Small farms that produce a variety of crops are found there. Crops do a little better in the milder climate of Nova Scotia.

Other economic activities have long depended on the resources of the sea and forests. However, the easy-to-reach old-growth forests are mostly gone. In addition, the Grand Banks area off Newfoundland—once one of the world's great commercial fishing grounds—has been overfished. As catches declined, unemployment increased. Today the government limits the number of fishing boats in the area. However, fishing is still important to the region's economy. With careful management, fish stocks may increase in the future.

The other natural resources of the Atlantic Provinces could help economic development. The mainland part of Newfoundland has important mineral deposits. Also, oil has been found offshore. Yet mining these resources provides few jobs, and other industries have been hard to develop. Why? The region's population is too small to provide a good home market. The major population and market centers in Quebec and Ontario are far away. With high unemployment, migration to the wealthier cities of Ontario and western Canada has been common. However, the region has finally made important progress in attracting new businesses in recent years.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Human Systems** Why has industry been hard to develop in the Atlantic Provinces?

Quebec and Ontario As you read in Section 1, Quebec and Ontario make up Canada's heartland. Montreal is the industrial and financial center of Quebec. It also serves as a major port on the St. Lawrence Seaway. This is true even though much of the river is frozen for four months each year. Quebec City, located where the shores of the St. Lawrence River pinch together, is also a major port. Service industries are more important than manufacturing there. To the north, ski resorts dot the Laurentian (law-REN-chuhn-z) Mountains.

Farming takes place in both southern Ontario and Quebec. However, manufacturing is the most important economic activity in Ontario. Southeastern Ontario is the chief manufacturing district of Canada. Toronto, Hamilton, Kitchener, Windsor, and other, smaller cities are located in this region. Factories there supply many of the needs of a modern industrial society and growing urban population.

Outside this part of Ontario, most of the province's cities are isolated. Some are service centers for remote mining districts. Sudbury, north of Lake Huron, developed around one of the world's largest deposits of nickel. Other

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Completed in 1959, the St. Lawrence Seaway connects the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean through a combination of artificial and natural waterways. It allows ocean-going ships to reach ports as far as Lake Superior and is important economically for both Canada and the United States. **How do you think the St. Lawrence Seaway affects the locations and patterns of economic activities in Canada?**



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cities have grown up at transportation junctions. The city of Thunder Bay on northwestern Lake Superior serves as the major port for wheat from the Prairie Provinces.

The Prairie Provinces Wheat is a major crop in the Prairie Provinces, and farmers there export most of it. Changes in the global wheat market and uncertain weather conditions can cause problems for these farmers. Once, as in the United States, the government guaranteed prices. This meant that farmers could count on making a profit from the sale of their wheat. However, the government is reducing aid, and the risks for individual farmers have increased. The results are ever-larger farms that use more modern technology and machinery. Those farms can grow more food with fewer workers.

Saskatchewan's economy is mostly agricultural. However, the province has other industries as well. For example, the province has the world's largest deposits of potash. Potash mining provides an important raw material that is used in fertilizers. Alberta's income is based mostly on fossil fuels, particularly oil. Rich oil fields are found there and in western Saskatchewan. The Rocky Mountains of southwestern Alberta are also a valuable natural resource. Their spectacular scenery attracts tourists from around the world.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Places and Regions** How have technology and reduced government aid changed farming patterns in the Prairie Provinces?

British Columbia The province of British Columbia, or "BC," stretches inland from the Pacific Coast. It is a land of mountains, plateaus, and fertile river valleys. British Columbia is rich in natural resources. Like the Pacific Northwest of the United States, much of the land is covered with forests of fir, spruce, and cedar trees. Income from forest products is substantial. In addition, salmon fishing and mining are important. Farmers use British Columbia's limited farmland mostly for growing fruits and vegetables as well as for dairying. Because of its location on Canada's west coast, BC trades with countries around the Pacific Rim. Japanese companies are important buyers of the province's forest products and minerals.

The Canadian North In the last 30 years, technology has helped make northern Canada less remote. Airplanes and satellite communications have tied the region more closely to the rest of the country. Now, in spite of its severe climate, the north has important promise for Canada's future. It is one of the modern world's great frontiers. Rich deposits of metals, diamonds, and fossil fuels have been discovered. In addition, supplies of freshwater there are huge. Years ago the indigenous peoples of this region lived by hunting and gathering. Some Inuit today still make a living this way. However, many now work for mining and construction companies, on military posts, or in the tourism industry.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Physical Systems** What effects have new technologies and discoveries of natural resources had on northern Canada?

Connecting to

TECHNOLOGY

Inuit Igloos

An igloo is a traditional Inuit hunting shelter built from blocks of snow. The dome-shaped igloo remains comfortable in northern Canada's howling winter winds and subzero temperatures. How is that possible? The secret lies in turning the snow house into an ice house. The Inuit do this by heating the igloo's interior so that its inside walls begin to melt. The walls absorb the water until the snow blocks are soaked through. Then the heating is stopped, and cold outside air is allowed inside the igloo. The freezing air fuses the blocks and creates an airtight structure of solid ice.

Because ice insulates, the igloo traps warm air. Extreme cold is kept out. In fact, the temperature of the interior can be kept at nearly 55°F (about 13°C) without threatening the structure. A little water may run down the walls, but it freezes again.

Drawing Conclusions Building igloos from snow is one way humans have depended on and adapted to their environment. What traditional building materials might people in forested or warm treeless areas use?





Toronto's location on the northern shore of Lake Ontario provides access to Atlantic shipping and to major industrial centers in the United States.

Urban Environments

Canada's cities are generally well managed, clean, and safe. Toronto is Canada's largest city. It has a metropolitan population approaching 5 million. The city is also home to Canada's largest stock exchange, major banks, and insurance companies. Many other large Canadian companies are also located there. In addition, people there can visit great museums and other cultural institutions. Recent immigrants from Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, and China help make Toronto a multicultural city.

Founded on an island in the St. Lawrence River, Montreal has a population of about 3.5 million. It is Canada's second-largest city. Underground passageways and

overhead glass tunnels connect many buildings in the city center. These structures protect people from the city's cold winter weather. Montreal's residents are proud of their subway, the Métro. It is patterned after the subway system in Paris.

Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, is located at the southeastern tip of Vancouver Island. The city is the home port for a large fishing fleet. Its old English charm also attracts many tourists every year. Nearby Vancouver, on the British Columbia mainland, is western Canada's most populous city. It has Canada's major ice-free harbor and is Canada's main Pacific port. A growing number of immigrants is adding to the metropolitan area's population of about 2 million. The city has also become a major center for movie and television productions.

Alberta has two rapidly growing cities, Calgary and Edmonton. Each is an important oil and agricultural center. Glass office towers stand out as striking structures on the Canadian prairie. However, Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, is the Prairie Provinces' chief city. All east-west rail traffic passes through Winnipeg. This makes the city an important collection and shipping point for the region's products.

✓ **READING CHECK:** *Places and Regions* What factors have been important to the growth of major cities in the Prairie Provinces?

Government and Politics

Canada's ties to Great Britain have remained close. Britain's monarch is also Canada's monarch. Also like Britain, Canada is a democracy. It is governed by a prime minister and an elected **parliament**, or legislature. A minister, or premier, also heads each province's parliament. Provincial governments can levy taxes and set policies on issues such as education and civil rights. Canada has three northern territories spread across the Canadian Arctic and sub-Arctic: Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut (NOO-na-voot). While they do not live in provinces, residents in the territories still have considerable control over local issues.